

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOTE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 L-03 DRC-01 /047 W

----- 016447

R 050750Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO FAA WASHDC HQ

SECSTATE WASHDC 6770

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FAA ALSO PASS ACTION TO FAA REGIONAL OFFICE HAVING JURISDICTION
OVER KHMER REPUBLIC.

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN

SUBJECT: FAA JURISDICTION OVER "N" REGISTERED PLANES FLYING IN
THE KHMER REPUBLIC

1. AT PRESENT THERE ARE IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD OF 25 DOMESTIC AIR-
LINES FLYING BOTH CARGO AND PASSENGERS IN THE KHMER REPUBLIC. SINCE
THESE AIRLINES ARE A PRIMARY SOURCE OF COMMUNICATIONS WITH
THE PROVINCIAL CAPITALS THE NUMBER OF SUCH AIRLINES WILL UN-
DOUBTEDLY INCREASE IN THE FUTURE. MANY OF THESE AIRLINES EMPLOY
AMERICAN PILOTS, AND MORE THAN A FEW OF THE PLANES OWNED BY
THESE FIRMS ARE UNDER AMERICAN "N" REGISTRATION.

2. THE EMBASSY IS BECOMING INCREASINGLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE LACK
OF ADEQUATE SAFETY AND MAINTENANCE STANDARDS. WE UNDERSTAND
THAT IN ORDER TO QUALIFY FOR "N" REGISTRATION THESE PLANES MUST
MEET MINIMUM FAA STANDARDS AT THE TIME THEY ARE REGISTERED. ONCE
THESE PLANES ARRIVE IN THE KHMER REPUBLIC FAA SAFETY AND MAIN-
TENANCE STANDARDS ARE IN MANY CASES NOT MET BY THESE AIRLINES FOR
A VARIETY OF REASONS WHICH INCLUDE: LACK OF QUALIFIED MAINTENANCE
CREWS; LACK OF FINANCIAL RESOURCES TO PURCHASE SPARE PARTS;
FLAGRANT PILFERAGE OF SPARE PARTS AND GASOLINE AT THE AIRPORT,
PARTICULARLY DURING THE NIGHT HOURS WHEN THE AIRPORT IS CLOSED.

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THERE ARE EVEN INSTANCES WHEN THE PILOTS THEMSELVES TOLERATE

OVERLOADING OF CARGO FROM WHICH THEY DERIVE A SHARE OF THE REVENUE. THE PLANES FOR THE MOST PART ARE OUTFITTED TO CARRY CARGO AND NOT PASSENGERS ON THEIR FLIGHTS, FREQUENTLY WITHOUT ADEQUATE SEATING OR SAFETY BELTS.

3. THE EMBASSY HAS DIRECTED THAT OFFICIAL PERSONNEL NOT FLY ON THESE AIRLINES. AMERICAN TOURISTS, AS FEW AS THEY ARE, ARE USING THESE AIRLINES IN THE MISTAKEN BELIEF THAT THE FIRMS ARE ADHERING TO MINIMUM SAFETY STANDARDS. WE INTEND INFORMALLY TO DISCOURAGE THEIR DOING SO, BUT DOUBT WHETHER THIS WILL BE ENTIRELY EFFECTIVE. VOLAG PERSONNEL IN THE PAST USED THESE AIRLINES, BUT THEY HAVE NOW BEEN ADVISED AGAINST FURTHER USE.

4. THE EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE KNOWING WHETHER FAA CONTINUES TO HAVE ANY JURISDICTION IN THE AREA OF SAFETY AND MAINTENANCE STANDARDS OVER AIRLINES FLYING PLANES WHICH HAVE "N" REGISTRATION. WE WOULD SUGGEST, IF THIS IS THE CASE, THAT FAA SEND AN INSPECTOR TO PERFORM A SPOT CHECK ON ALL AIRLINES AND AIRPLANES WHICH ARE AMERICAN-REGISTERED.

5. RECENT CRASH, DUE TO THE LOSS OF AN ENGINE ON TAKE-OFF, OF AN AIRPLANE AT BATTAMBANG OPERATED BY CAMBODIA AIR COMMERCIAL (NOT "N" REGISTERED) HAS HIGHLIGHTED THIS PROBLEM. ABOUT 12 PEOPLE DIED IN THE CRASH (ALL KHMER), AND 15 WERE INJURED, REPORTEDLY INCLUDING TWO FRENCH CITIZENS. THE PILOT IN THIS INSTANCE WAS THE OWNER OF THIS "AIRLINE" AND IS TAIWANESE.
DEAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COMMERCIAL AIRCRAFT, AIR SAFETY, TOURISM, AVIATION REGULATIONS, AIRCRAFT ACCIDENTS
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Draft Date: 05 JUL 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: shawdg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974PHNOM08983
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740178-0459
From: PHNOM PENH
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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30 JUN 2005

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